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Our File No. 9281-4230
Client Reference No. FC US00017

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Mikio Onodera)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
Filing Date: Herewith)
For: Manual Input Device Using a Motor as an)
Actuator for Applying an External Force to)
Its Manual Control Knob)

2/IDS
P. Walker
3-13-02

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant hereby submits references A1-A2 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

FR2731090A1 and Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication 2001-109558 disclose a motor shaft connected to the axis of rotation of the rotary knob to move the rotary knob in a lateral plane.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicant reserves the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicant does not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicant's invention or that these references make Applicant's invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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